



# ***In Case of Emergency...***

Monthly Newsletter of the Utah Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security

Volume II, Number 8

August, 2002

## **DES STAFF CHANGES**

Several staff and organization changes at DES have recently occurred. For those of you keeping score at home, they are outlined below.

Joe Thornton was recently promoted from Training Section manager to bureau chief over Emergency Preparedness. This bureau includes the training section and CSEPP.

Rick Williams' bureau is now the Community Support/Operations Bureau. It includes the EOC and county liaison and natural hazards programs.

Lt. Mark Millett's Haz Mat Bureau stayed nearly the same, but it now includes the excess property program as well.

DES also has several new section managers promoted from within the agency: Lorin Larsen, CSEPP Section; Jody Horn, Training Section; and Rey Thompson, Information Technology Section. John Rokich's assignment changed to section manager over the Community Support Section.

Also, Jerrienne Kolby was recently hired as an emergency preparedness planner/liaison officer. Jerrienne previously worked for the American Red Cross and has more than 20 years experience in planning and disaster coordination.

DES is bidding farewell to two valued employees. Dr. Fred May is retiring after more than 17 years as the state disaster mitigation officer. He will be the director of the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies Program at Brandon University in Manitoba, Canada.

Bob Fowler is leaving after six years at the division. He will be a community health coordinator for the Utah Department of Health working with CSEPP and bioterrorism programs.

If you would like to see the division's new organization chart, contact us at 801-538-3400.

In addition, the Pauite tribe has a new emergency program manager, Tara Marlow. Also, Iron County has assigned Charlie Morris to be the new program manager there. Welcome to both.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

August 21 Recovery from Disaster workshop

September 4-5 Basic PIO Course

September 14 Airport full-scale exercise

September 18 CSEPP Annual Exercise

October 1 City/County Directors Meeting

For more information, contact DES at 801-538-3400 or toll-free at 800-753-2858.

## **TASK FORCES TEAM UP**

Utah Homeland Security Task Force will be collocating with the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force. The move will enable information sharing and cooperation to reach new levels.

Both Task Forces will maintain separate missions and identity, but will share information, ideas, intelligence and now a single address. Office location will be at the Salt Lake FBI Headquarters.

"The challenge with operations like this is sharing sensitive and classified information," said Major Stu Smith, director of HLSTF. "Hosting the Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake gave us the chance to work closely with our federal partners. We are now enhancing that relationship to protect the citizens of Utah."

The Utah HLSTF web site is being reworked and efforts are being directed to the protection of Utah's infrastructure.

For more information call 801 957-8600.

## **STATE MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**

Regional mitigation plans continue to move forward. The first of the federal money for the planning process recently arrived in the state. Planners are being assigned at each of the regional associations of government to work with local emergency managers and other experts to develop the plan. For more information, contact DES at 801-538-3400.

## **CSEPP ANNUAL EXERCISE**

This year's Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program Exercise will take place September 18.

Each year, the Army, FEMA, the state and Tooele, Salt Lake and Utah counties are required to demonstrate their capability to respond in the unlikely event a release at Deseret Chemical Depot affects the off-post community. The state will activate the emergency operations center including the State Emergency Response Team.

"This is the premier exercise program in the federal government," said Lorin Larsen, CSEPP section manager. "While the completion of the GB campaign at the depot greatly reduced the risk to the community, it is important that we be ready just in case."



## CELLULAR PHONES, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, ERRORS

Contributed by Marty Shaub of the University of Utah  
Expert from How Cell Phones Work by Marshall Brain and Jeff Tyson

*"Millions of people in the United States and around the world use cellular phones. These days, cell phones provide an incredible array of functions, and new ones are being added at a breakneck pace."*

Emergency management has certainly benefited from cellular technologies. I don't know of an emergency manager, responder, public official, or media personality now days who doesn't depend upon cellular technologies to some degree in his or her work life. It's a good thing – most of the time. It can be a really bad thing, too, unfortunately.

In the world of cell phone design there are two basic models, still: the open face "bar" and the "flip or closeable" kind. The open face is just that, the model that has all the buttons exposed all the time. They are convenient, one motion, one button to activate devices. The flip or closeable phones are also just that, they are hinged in some way requiring you to open them. Here the keys are not exposed unless the phone is open for use.

My message is terribly simple: in our line of work, get a flip phone that disconnects your calls when it closes, automatically, and cannot initiate a call in it's closed position.

One of the most interesting things about a cell phone is that it is actually a radio -- an extremely sophisticated radio, but a radio nonetheless.

You know, of course, in responder vehicles, if you "key the mike" everyone can hear everything you say. The same can happen with a cell phone call. The improvement with this technology, however, if you don't "end the call", presumably only one person is listening.

Such has been the case in my world a few times in the past months. I've been the recipient of a cellular call that did not end and my voice mail has captured the entire next conversation the caller had – in their private office. In one scenario, I listened in to a live conversation.

Imagine the troubling scenario... anyone's cell phone, hanging off their hip could be activated at any time before or during your conversations, accidentally or intentionally.

It's time. Upgrade your business equipment. It's also time to upgrade protocols. In my office, the management team carry flip phones and when sensitive discussions take place, cell phones that aren't flipped shut are turned off and laid on the table. I'm sensitized. Really sensitized.

## STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

City and County Emergency Managers: Watch for the Fiscal Year 2003, State and Local Assistance (SLA) application package to arrive around the August 23. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either Nancy Barr or Kris Hamlet at 538-3400.



## AIRPORT EXERCISE

Submitted by David Herrmann of the Salt Lake City Department of Airports

The Salt Lake City Department of Airports will be conducting a full-scale disaster exercise on the morning of Saturday, September 14, at midnight. The drill, held regularly on a tri-annual basis, is intended to test airport emergency procedures, this year by simulating the crash of a taxiing aircraft into a concourse, resulting in fire, and the subsequent need for evacuation, triage, and transport of a large number of individuals.

Those agencies that would respond to the airport during any real-life disaster may send a representative to observe the exercise by contacting with David Herrmann at 575-2070, no later than Monday, September 2. Due to limited space, interested parties are encouraged to call as soon as possible.



## SIX FIRE DEPARTMENTS RECEIVE FEDERAL GRANTS

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the United States Fire Administration awarded more than \$300,000 to Utah fire departments in the 2002 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.



The six departments will use the awards for fire operation, firefighter safety and firefighting vehicles. The departments and their awards are as follows:

- Cedar City/Iron County Fire Department -- \$40,000
- Logan Fire and EMS -- \$81,000
- Trenton City Fire Department -- \$19,800
- Partoun Fire Department -- \$90,000
- Diamond Valley Fire Department -- \$18,000
- Santaquin City Fire Department -- \$57,213

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program enhances basic fire service delivery across the United States. More than 5,000 departments across the country will receive more than \$360 million to support fire protection, EMS delivery, vehicle purchase, and prevention programs in 2002.

## THE DES TRIVIA QUIZ GAME

Here we go:

1. Where is DES Admin Manager AnnaRae Garrett's favorite place to fish?
2. In the TV show "MASH", what was the given name of "Radar"?
3. According to Earthquake Lady Maralin Hoff, how many "Basic" items should you include in your 72-hour kit?
4. On "Gilligan's Island", what is the full name of the Skipper?
5. What high school did HLS director Stu Smith graduate from?

To win a prize, e-mail your answers to [paulae@utah.gov](mailto:paulae@utah.gov) (see July issue for ground rules.) Answers to last month's questions are on the DES website.